

CROSSSECTION

Winter

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TIMMM-BERRRRR!! OR NOT TO TIMBER.

IS THAT YOUR QUESTION?

MATT SCHARVER, RESOURCE PROTECTION SPECIALIST

In times of economic downturn some landowners look to supplement income by liquidating their natural resources and for many folks this may mean selling the timber off of their property. Timber sales are a good way to utilize your land to derive additional income, but there are good timber harvests and there are bad timber harvests. A good harvest is dictated by you the landowner and should attain your goals for sound timber production, protect and improve your residual stand of trees, create wildlife habitat if desired and safeguard your soil and water quality within the woodlot. Bad harvests include: high-grading a stand (taking only the best trees), mismanagement of best management practices that protect water quality and your soil resources, and lost revenue due to a flawed timber contract that you may not fully understand. Timing is an important factor as well, and you should consider the current status of the timber markets and the overall economy. The age, health, and species composition of your forest should receive consideration during the decision-making process. There are a multitude of factors at play when considering a timber harvest on your property, and you should take the time to adequately research the issue thoroughly to avoid the many pitfalls that lie between your trees and the greenbacks you'll receive for them.

Even if you are not currently considering a timber sale, the best first step you can take is to have a professional develop a forest management plan for your forest. A forest management plan should assess the type, quality and age of your trees and the conditions in which they are growing. Recommendations for timber harvesting, timber stand improvement practices and species composition should be included in your plan. A forest management plan tailored to your goals will enable you to make informed, educated decisions about when and how to harvest your crop of trees. Well-informed landowners can save or earn themselves tens of thousands of dollars on a timber sale, which means a lot in this economy. So, what's the first step in getting some trained advice to go along with a well documented forest management plan? Contact Matt Scharver, Resource Specialist and Certified Tree Farm Inspector for the American Tree Farm System at the Lake SWCD Office (440)350-2031. These services are free to Lake County landowners.

Tree Sale Order Form



LAKE SWCD HOLDS 62ND ANNUAL MEETING

On October 30th, nearly 120 people attended the Lake SWCD Annual Meeting held at DeRubertis in Madison Township. The District's achievements were showcased both in displays and in a slideshow of images of some of the projects from 2008. Attendees also got to admire the many door prizes generously donated by the businesses and individuals listed on Page 5.

Dinner was a buffet with chicken and roast beef along with many side dishes and dessert options. While attendees finished their dessert, Kevin Kayle, supervisor of ODNR Division of Wildlife's Fairport Fisheries Research Station described the work his office does. He outlined several environmental issues facing Lake Erie and the Great Lakes, including invasive species and anoxia, the 'dead zones' that appear in the summer.

During the meeting, an election was held to fill two seats on the Lake SWCD Board of Supervisors. Billie Kamis was re-elected for her second term, and Skip Dugan will replace Denise Brewster, who chose not to run again. Billie and Skip will begin three-year terms in January. Lake SWCD would like to thank Denise for her time and skills that she brought to the Board of Supervisors.

One for the Grape's

Adopt a Vine Program



ADOPT A VINE AND SUPPORT NORTHEAST OHIO VINEYARDS

MAURINE ORNDORFF, AGRICULTURAL PROGRAMS TECHNICIAN

"Farmland. They're not making it any more." "Asphalt is the final crop." Trite? Maybe. Attention getting? Yes. True? Absolutely.

In today's economy, there is a slump in the housing market, and a possibility that high gas prices will slow down sprawl, causing a shift in how and where people want to live. However the scenic and productive vineyards in rural northeast Ohio will always attract people who want to live surrounded by wide open spaces, quiet, and fresh air. Our work to preserve our agricultural lands and our agricultural industries goes on as strong as ever, but we do appreciate the sense of having some breathing room. The successes that we achieve now will create a legacy for all generations that follow, with beautiful pastoral landscapes, and fresh, nutritious food that has been grown close to home.

In 2007 Lake SWCD partnered with Ohio Wine Producers Association to start a locally sustained fund as a way to help protect the vineyard lands in Northeast Ohio, called *One for the Grape*. *One for the Grape* is modeled after a successful program in Gunnison Colorado, where one percent of patron purchases goes to protect open space

in that beautiful mountainous region. The *One for the Grape* fund will be used to protect vineyard lands in Lake, Ashtabula and Geauga counties with conservation easements, and for cost-share assistance to bring new technologies that will make our vineyards more environmentally sound and sustainable. Donations to *One for the Grape* may be made at participating wineries or at oneforthe葡萄.org.

We expanded *One for the Grape* in 2008 with the launch of the Adopt a Vine program at Vintage Ohio, where we sold Traminette grape vines (a white wine and table grape) in one-gallon pots. We are now offering a bare-root vine program in conjunction with our annual spring tree seedling sale. Adopt a Vine provides an opportunity to help preserve our vineyard lands and expand the amount of wine grapes grown in Northeast Ohio at the same time. Vines can be purchased to be planted in a vineyard of one's choice (Ferrante, Debonne, Grand River Cellars or St. Joseph vineyards), or at home. Riesling (white) and Cabernet Franc (red) grapevines are available at three levels: **Taster**, with 3 vines for \$30, **Enthusiast**, with 10 vines for \$100, and **Connoisseur**, with 50 vines for \$500.

At the Connoisseur level, if the vines are planted in a vineyard, the donor will have a plaque engraved with his or her name and date mounted on the post at the end of the row. The Connoisseur level also entitles the patron to other perquisites. For further information about the opportunities of making a donation at this level, call the District office at 440-350-2730.

Farmland. They really aren't making it anymore. The thoughtfulness our communities use now in guiding their growth will provide a proud legacy for the future.

NOT TOO LATE FOR LOCAL FOODS

MAPLE-ROASTED ROOT VEGETABLES

6 c mixed root vegetables* cut into 1" chunks
4 tsp olive oil
2-3 T maple syrup (honey can be substituted)
Salt and pepper

Preheat the oven to 450.

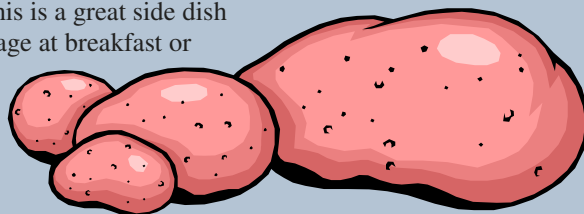
Peel and cut root vegetables as necessary, depending on type. Toss the vegetable pieces with the olive oil to coat and spread into a greased roasting pan or 9x13 casserole. Bake for 10 minutes. Stir in maple syrup and bake an addition 10 minutes. Stir vegetables well and bake for 10 more minutes or until soft and golden brown.

*What's a root vegetable you ask? Here is a partial list of root vegetables and others that will work in root vegetable recipes: potatoes, sweet potatoes, carrots, turnips, parsnips, rutabagas, acorn squash, butternut squash, pumpkin, beets, Jerusalem artichokes, whole pearl onions, whole garlic cloves (peel before eating).

ROASTED POTATOES AND APPLES

¼ c apple cider vinegar
1 t soy sauce
3 T brown sugar
1 ½ t prepared yellow mustard
1 t salt
¼ c olive oil
1 lb local potatoes cleaned and cubed (skins are fine)
1 lb local apples, cleaned, cored and cut into wedges

Preheat oven to 400. Lightly grease a 9x13 baking dish. Whisk together the first 5 ingredients. Whisk in the olive oil. Toss the potatoes and apples in this mixture until they are well-coated. Spread into the baking dish. Bake 30-35 minutes. Serve warm. This is a great side dish with sausage at breakfast or dinner.



2009 Spring Tree Seedling Sale

WHITE PINE - A yearly favorite, these trees should quickly grow to 100 feet or more. Long, soft needles make them good for ornamentals and Christmas trees as well. Tolerant of many soil conditions. 10 per packet.

BLUE SPRUCE - This classic is cold-tolerant and tends to grow in a symmetrical pyramid if not crowded or shaded. Slow-growing, but doesn't like soggy soils. 10 per packet.

RED BUD - This tree won't ever tower over your house, at its 20-35' mature height, but it should put on a show of pink-to-purple blossoms in advance of the leaves each spring. Tolerates droughty soils but prefers moist places. 5 per packet.

FOAMFLOWER - This shade-loving ground cover will bloom pink in spring, and has deeply lobed leaves, sometimes retaining its color into winter. Excellent for places too shady for grass.

AMERICAN HYBRID CHESTNUTS - This is a cross between American and Chinese chestnut that retains the upright American structure, with the blight resistance of the Chinese chestnut. A fast-growing and upright tree that will reach 50' and may start producing nuts in as little as 5 years. Prefers well-drained soils. 3 per packet.

FOREST NUT (3 OF EACH SPECIES)

BLACK WALNUT - A fast-growing tree that also prefers wet soils. Highly prized timber tree and also produces edible nuts. Yellow leaves in the fall.

WHITE OAK - This tree grows well in a yard, but can also be used to naturalize areas. Deer, squirrels and larger birds are attracted to the acorns. It can eventually reach 100 feet. Younger oaks are tolerant of shady conditions.

BITTERNUT HICKORY - Similar in size, structure and growing conditions to shagbark, but with a more tannic, bitter nut. Wildlife still like them, but humans usually don't.

FOREST HARDWOOD (3 OF EACH SPECIES)

SUGAR MAPLE - Best known for bright fall colors, these trees can eventually reach 100' and prefer sunny spots.

BLACK CHERRY - A great timber tree which puts on shows of white flowers in late spring and purple berries in August. Grows to 60' or more.

TULIP POPLAR - A broad, upright tree that is quick to shed its lower branches. Tulip poplars have bright orange and green flowers in the spring, if you remember to look up for them.

WILDLIFE (3 OF EACH SPECIES)

SERVICEBERRY - This small, deciduous tree may reach 25'. Its berries come from showy white spring flowers, and the tree is one of the first to turn in the fall, usually an orange or red color.

SARGENT CRABAPPLE - Reaching only 10-12' in maturity, this crabapple has white spring flowers and small red fruits that last into the winter to attract birds.

EASTERN RED CEDAR - This evergreen provides cover and a food source for birds and small mammals. May reach 40 feet if left untrimmed, and can be used for shelter or hedge plantings.

STREAM AND POND (3 OF EACH SPECIES)

REDOSIER DOGWOOD - A woody shrub that might reach 20' but is usually shorter. Named for the red bark, it also provide small, sour berries for wildlife in late fall and winter.

PURPLEOSIER WILLOW - Younger shoots show purple bark, later fading to grey. This water-loving shrub will grow to about 20' high. Also makes a good living snow fence.

SYCAMORE - The white bark of these trees is a year-round indicator of the wettest landscape spots. These trees will grow quickly and can eventually reach to 120'.

NEW! **BACKYARD DESSERT STARTER KIT (2 OF EACH SPECIES)**

NANKING CHERRY - This shrubby cherry tree will stay under 8 feet, and produce bright red sour cherries, suitable for baking or canning. White spring flowers and yellow leaves in fall.

THORNLESS RED RASPBERRY - A fruiting shrub that will be easier to pick than wild raspberries. For best production, you will need to prune it mercilessly every few years.

BLUEBERRIES - Two varieties of long-bearing blueberries should bring you several pies throughout the summer. Must be planted near each other for cross pollination.



BIRDHOUSES - Birdhouses are hand-made out of unfinished wood. Bluebird, wren, bat, and wood duck / screech owl are available.

TREE FLAGS - White wire flags useful for marking young trees and preventing lawn mower casualties

NEW! ADOPT-A-VINE PROGRAM

Grape vines will come as grafted bare-root plants. When filling out the order form, please indicate which variety you would like, and if you want to plant the vines in your yard or donate them to your favorite vineyard. For more information on the program, and participating vineyards, see Page 2.

RIESLING - A white grape variety which originates in the Rhine region of Germany. Riesling is an aromatic grape variety used to make dry, semi-sweet, sweet and sparkling white wines. Riesling is highly "terroir-expressive", meaning that the character of Riesling wines is clearly influenced by the wine's place of origin.

CABERNET FRANC - One of the major varieties of red wine grape grown in Bordeaux. Cabernet Franc is lighter than Cabernet Sauvignon (of which it is a parent). These thin-skinned grapes produce wines with strong aromas of raspberries, green peppers and fresh cut grass while carrying high levels of acidity. The Cabernet Franc wine's color is bright pale red.



PACKET		COST	NO. OF PACKETS		TOTAL
White Pine (10)		\$ 8	X	_____	= _____
Blue Spruce (10)		\$ 8	X	_____	= _____
Red Bud (5)		\$ 8	X	_____	= _____
Forest Nut (9)		\$12	X	_____	= _____
Forest Hardwood (9)		\$12	X	_____	= _____
Wildlife (9)		\$12	X	_____	= _____
Stream and Pond (9)		\$12	X	_____	= _____
Backyard Dessert Starter Kit (6)		\$12	X	_____	= _____
Foamflower		\$ 6	X	_____	= _____
Hybrid Chestnuts (3)		\$12	X	_____	= _____
Packaging (required for all tree orders)		\$ 4	X	_____1_____	= _____\$4_____
Bluebird House		\$ 8	X	_____	= _____
Wren House		\$ 8	X	_____	= _____
Bat House		\$10	X	_____	= _____
Wood Duck/Screech Owl House		\$20	X	_____	= _____
Adopt A Vine: Taster (3 vines)		\$30	X	_____	= _____
See below	Enthusiast (10 vines)	\$100	X	_____	= _____
	Connoisseur (50 vines)	\$500	X	_____	= _____

Total:

Name: _____

Address: _____

City, State, ZIP Code: _____

Daytime phone (between 8 AM and 4 PM): _____

E-mail address (only used if we need to contact you about your order): _____

For Adopt A Vine orders: Please specify quantity of each: _____ Cabernet Franc _____ Riesling

Vines to be planted at (circle one): Ferrante Debonne Grand River Cellars St. Joseph My yard

To order:

- Fill out the form above. Keep this portion for reference.
- Send form, along with check or money order to Lake SWCD, 125 E. Erie St, Painesville OH 44077.
- **Orders will not be processed until payment is received.**
- Sorry, we cannot take credit cards.
- **Place orders by February 23.**
- Any order placed after that date will be subject to availability.

To pick up order:

- Trees will be distributed in the Natural Resources Building at the Lake County Fairgrounds, 1301 Mentor Ave.
- Pick-up times are Friday, April 17 from 9 AM to 6 PM and Saturday, April 18th from 9 AM to Noon.
- Lake SWCD is not responsible for orders that are not picked up by noon Saturday. If you cannot pick up your trees, please make arrangements for someone else to pick them up.
- Orders will be distributed in 5 gallon buckets, and should fit in most cars.

We reserve the right to make substitutions if necessary.

The plants are nursery inspected to be disease-free. Lake SWCD cannot guarantee their survival after distribution.

Planting instructions will be provided when you pick up your trees.

TREE SALE FAQ

BETH LANDERS, EDUCATION COORDINATOR

We get questions every year about our tree sale. Here are some of the more common ones, and a look into the planning that goes into the sale. Hopefully this will satisfy your curiosity.

How do you choose the trees to offer?

There are hundreds of possibilities of trees we could offer for sale. We try to choose trees that are native, thrive in our climate and soil conditions, aren't subject to diseases or insects that are currently active in our area, and that people tend to like. We also look at what trees sold well in previous years, and what is available for a good price at our supplying nurseries.

Why don't you offer _____ trees?

Hey, it can't hurt to ask us. If you'd like to see a certain tree on the list next year, call, e-mail, or ask us when you pick up your order this year. Sometimes all it takes is a suggestion. Other times we've already looked into a species and there is a reason we can't offer it. We tend to select **our** favorites, mostly because you haven't told us **yours**!

Why bare root?

Our tree sale takes place early in the growing season. We take advantage of the fact that trees go through a dormant phase in the winter. As long as the roots stay moist and cool, the tree will take off again in the spring. There are several advantages to this method: we don't have to pay to ship dirt, and we don't have to worry about pathogens hitching a ride in the soil. It is also easier on the tree; by taking the weight of the soil off of the roots, we help prevent bark damage. For the nursery, sending plants out bare-root helps them maintain a healthy soil matrix to plant trees in again next year. And finally, trees that are shipped bare-root are actually shipped with more of their root mass than trees that are balled; if they are planted well, they will never see the root girdling problems that are so common in container-grown trees.

What's with the buckets?

We started using buckets a few years ago to make handling the trees easier on you, on us, and on the trees. The buckets allow the trees to stand up, keeping moisture around the roots, keeping the buds out from under our feet and keeping any torn bags from dripping in your car on the way home. And who doesn't need a 5-gallon bucket?

WINTER SALT USE AND WATER QUALITY

PAUL BOWYER, STORMWATER SPECIALIST

As winter approaches, many of our outdoor activities are coming to an end for the season, but it is important to remember that we still have an impact on water quality any time of the year.

De-icing materials used on your driveway and sidewalk have an effect on the quality of water in our streams, lakes, and groundwater. The salt we use to melt ice and snow creates salty run-off that flows into storm drains and ditches, eventually reaching our local streams. In addition, the salt can seep into the soil and groundwater. The dissolved salt alters the chemistry of both surface water and groundwater; these changes can harm aquatic organisms in surface water, and plant roots in the soil. The effects of the salts in surface water and groundwater linger long past the winter season.

You can take the following steps to reduce winter salt pollution:

- ◆ Limit the use of salts as much as possible. Salt does not work well in colder temperatures or on loose snow. Shovel first, then salt.
- ◆ Use calcium chloride products instead of rock salt. You only need one third of the amount. Calcium chloride is also gentler on metals and works at lower temperatures than the sodium chloride in rock salt.
- ◆ Try adding traction. A small amount of sand mixed with the salt will give you traction on the ice as it melts away. The sand also allows you to see where the white salt has been spread on the white snow. But remember too much sand can be bad for streams, too.
- ◆ If possible avoid spreading the product near surface water, storm drains and ditches.

For more information on non-point source pollution, check out our website: www.lakecountyoohio.gov/soil.

**LAKE SWCD
WOULD LIKE TO
THANK THE
FOLLOWING
PEOPLE AND
BUSINESSES FOR
DONATING DOOR
PRIZES TO OUR
ANNUAL
MEETING.**

Aqua Ohio	Arcola Creek Nursery	Backyard Feeding Station - Mentor
Cohn's Nursery	Brotzman's Nursery	Backyard Feeding Station - Madison
CT Consultants	Cottage Gardens	CM Brown Nurseries Inc.
Golding Farms	Gale's Garden Center	Fowlers Mills Golf Course
Hellriegel's Inn	Gilson Gardens	Herman Losely & Son
Klyn Nurseries	Holden Arboretum	Lake County Nursery
ME Enterprises	Roemer Nursery	Lakeland Community College
Tom Pollock	Secor's Nursery	Mackenzie Nursery Supply
Rainbow Farms	Shreve Nursery	John & April Niedzialek
Remi-Teas	Springlake Nursery	Ohio Wine Producers Association
Rich Miller	Tastefully Simple	Quail Hollow Country Club
Rider's Inn	Toledo Nursery	Sabo's Woodside Nursery

Return Service Requested



Recycled Paper

WHO WANTS TO BE A CONSERVATIONIST?

Urban tree edition. The following questions were all taken from a study done of the public street trees in Bucyrus, Ohio.

- 1) Trees shade houses from the hot summer sun, reduce wind speed, and cool the air temperature through transpiration. The annual energy savings per tree in Bucyrus was about:
 - A) \$5
 - B) \$15
 - C) \$35
 - D) \$50
- 2) Urban trees are also an important part of stormwater control. The street trees in Bucyrus intercept nearly 5 million gallons of rainwater each year. This saves the City:
 - A) \$75,000
 - B) \$100,000
 - C) \$130,000
 - D) \$150,000
- 3) The urban forest of Bucyrus traps and sequesters carbon. If all of the trees were to be removed and destroyed it would release:
 - A) 5000 tons
 - B) 9000 tons
 - C) 14,000 tons
 - D) 20,000 tons
- 4) People like trees. Customer surveys show that people spend more money and time in commercial streetscapes that include trees. This increases spending by:
 - A) 3%
 - B) 7%
 - C) 11%
 - D) 13%
- 5) Once all of the benefits were calculated for the street trees in Bucyrus, the total annual financial contribution per tree was nearly:
 - A) \$75
 - B) \$125
 - C) \$175
 - D) \$200

Answers: 1) D, 2) C, 3) B, 4) C, 5) D

LAKE COUNTY SOIL & WATER CONSERVATION DISTRICT

125 E. Erie St., Painesville, OH 44077

•440-350-2730 (main number) •FAX 440-350-2601

Toll-free •428-4348 ext. 2730 Madison/Perry

•918-2730 Cleveland/Western Lake County

•1-800-899-LAKE ext 2730 outside Lake County only

Office Hours: Mon.-Fri. 7:30 am-4:00 pm

•E-mail: soil@lakecountyohio.org

•Web site: www.lakecountyohio.org/soil

PAUL BOWYER, Stormwater Specialist	350-2092
PAM BROWN, District Secretary/Treasurer	350-2041
DAN DONALDSON, District Administrator	350-2030
CHAD EDGAR, Urban Stream Specialist	350-2032
BETH LANDERS, Education/Information Coordinator	350-2033
MAURINE ORNDORFF, Agricultural Programs Technician	350-5863
MATTHEW SCHARVER, Resource Protection Specialist	350-2031
AL BONNIS, District Conservationist, NRCS	437-5888
JOHN NIEDZIALEK, Western Reserve RC&D Coordinator	350-2034

BOARD OF SUPERVISORS

DICK BAKER (1998-2006, 2008), NORTH PERRY, SECRETARY
DENISE BREWSTER (2006), CONCORD, TREASURER
BILLIE KAMIS (2006), WILLOUGHBY HILLS, CHAIR
BRUCE LANDEG (2007), MENTOR, FISCAL AGENT
CHRIS LEGROS (2007), WAITE HILL, VICE CHAIR

MEMBER OF:

- American Farmland Trust • Lake County Farm Bureau
- Nursery Growers of Lake County Ohio
- National Association of Conservation Districts
- Ohio Federation of Soil & Water Conservation Districts

AN EQUAL OPPORTUNITY EMPLOYER: All Lake SWCD and USDA programs and services are available without regard to race, age, gender, national origin, political beliefs, color, religion, disability, sexual orientation, or marital or family status.

The public is invited to attend Lake SWCD's monthly Board meetings, held the third Tuesday of the month at 7:00 pm at 125 East Erie St., Painesville. Meeting announcements appear under the public agenda in the News-Herald and on the Lake SWCD website. Please call in advance to let us know you will be attending.